

Assistance to State Governments by World Bank Through A.R.D.C.

1317. SHRI D. A. SIVAPRAKASAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has given to any State Government in India any assistance through A.R.D.C. during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of the States and the nature of the assistance given; and

(c) whether the World Bank has put in any condition before giving the assistance?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Assistance from the World Bank is channeled through A.R.D.C. to State Co-operative financial institutions like the State Land Development Banks, State Co-operative Bank and Commercial and Regional Rural Banks.

(b) A statement regarding A.R.D.C. assistance to State level cooperative institutions is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4256/82.]

(c) Agreements entered into with the World Bank cover measures for improving loan recoveries, and for improving financial and managerial performance of the participating banks.

Demands for Reduction of Excise Duty on Bidis

1318. SHRIMATI USHA PRAKASH CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the demand made for the reduction of excise duty on bidies and transfer of the excise duty on branded bidis to tobacco by the All-India Bidis Industries Federation; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not proposed to effect any changes in the excise duty structure applicable to bidis for the present.

Export of Iron Ore from Paradeep Port

1319. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reduction of iron ore exports from Paradeep Port; if so the reasons thereof; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take for streamlining the exports of iron ore from the said port?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). The reduction in export of iron ore from Paradeep Port has been mainly on account of continued recession in the world steel industry, the incapability of the Port to receive large size vessels and the poor loading rates. Government have already approved the scheme for improvement in loading facilities, including installation of wagon tippler, replacement of reclaimers etc.

Proposal to Amend/Repeal Cantonment Board Act, 1924

1320. SHRI VISHVA NATH SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend or repeal Cantonment Board Act, 1924; and

(b) if so; the main changes envisaged?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Cantonments (Amendment) Bill to further amend the Cantonments Act, 1924 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 9-7-1982.

(b) Broadly, the proposed amendments envisage declaring naval stations as Cantonments; increase in the terms of office of the members of the Board from three years to five years; enlarging the functions

of the Civil Area Committees; and introducing measures for streamlining the administration of Cantonment Boards keeping in view contemporary trends in municipal administration.

Names of New Tourist Centres Developed

1321. SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL:
Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of new Tourist Centres developed in the country during the last two years, State-wise,

(b) what was the total amount allotted and the amount spent during the said period;

(c) whether there is any proposal to develop more Tourist Centres during the year 1982-83 and the amount allocated; and

(d) the details of the centres likely to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Beside the continuing schemes undertaken in the Central Sector, facilities were provided/their development initiated at the following new tourist centres during 1980-81 and 1981-82:—

Facilities	New Schemes
(i) Son-et-Lumiere	Buxar (initiated)
(ii) Provision of transport/boats	Betla, Ukai, Pong Dam and other lakes in Himachal Pradesh, lakes in Rajasthan, Sundarbans, Goa rivers and coastal waters (funds released)
(iii) Provision of trekking equipment	Trek routes in (a) Himachal Pradesh (provided) and (b) U. P. Hills (funds released).
(iv) Tourist Complex	Kushinagar (land acquired).
(v) Preparation of Master Plan (land-use plans)	(i) Mewar complex and Piprahwa (completed) (ii) Lalitgiri-Ratnagiri-Udaigiri (initiated)

(b) The total amount (including for above schemes) allocated and actually spent in the Central Tourism Sector during 1980-81 and 1981-82 was as follows:—

Deptt. of I.T.D.C.
Tourism

(Rs. in lakhs)

1980-81

Amount allocated 322.00 760.00

Amount actually spent 192.00 762.53

1981-82

Amount allocated 400.00 1100.00

(Reduced to 370.00) (enhanced to 1450.00)

Amount actually spent 361.87 1321.00